From: Michael J. Sherman
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:12am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern;

I have reviewed the proposed settlement, and I find it completely unacceptable.

As a professional computer scientist, I work with software every day. I have seen first-hand the damage Microsoft has had on computing technology. They may say that all they want is the "freedom to innovate", but what they really mean is the "freedom to innovate new ways to making money".

Computing technology would be leaps ahead right now if it weren't for the illegal practices of Microsoft. Any settlement MUST allow true competition, where Microsoft can be relegated to a 40% market share or so.

Dependence on Microsoft is bad for many reasons. One, their security is fundamentally flawed in their OS (I have done extensive research). Two, our business economy would crash if Microsoft were to go out of business (over-dependence). Three, their products are just plain inferior and put all software in a bad light (users "expect" programs to crash now!).

Please, remedy the situation in a sane manner. Of all the times the government should do something FOR THE PEOPLE, this is it. Do not give in to the Microsoft lobby and believe their lies!

Sincerely, Michael J. Sherman Computer Scientist Sterling, VA